## **REMARKS**

The present amendment is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first Office Action and simultaneously with the filing of the present application.

With this amendment applicants have amended the specification, cancelled claims 1-5 and added new claims 6-15, all in an effort to place the application in better condition for examination.

Favorable action on the present application is respectfully requested.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with the application may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted, COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

 $\mathbf{R}\mathbf{v}$ 

Klaus P. Stoffel

Reg. No. 31,668

551 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1210

New York, N.Y. 10176

(212) 687-2770

1 March 2000